

Focus Area 18: Mental Health and Mental Disorders

Objective 18-1 targets an overall reduction in the suicide death rate to 5.0 per 100,000 population.

California's age-adjusted death rates for suicide did not change significantly from 9.5 per 100,000 population in 2000 to 9.4 per 100,000 in 2004 (Figure 18-1, Table 18-1). California's suicide death rates remain significantly higher than the HP2010 target of 5.0 per 100,000 population, and this objective has not yet been achieved.

Age-adjusted suicide death rates for males (14.7 per 100,000 in 2004) were nearly three times higher than the HP2010 target, and significantly higher than those for females (4.5 per 100,000 in 2004). This HP2010 objective is being achieved for females, but not for males as of 2004.

Data by race and ethnicity show that Whites experienced significantly higher age-adjusted suicide death rates than any other racial or ethnic population (13.3 per 100,000 in 2004). The next highest suicide death rates in 2004 were found for the Asian population (6.5 per 100,000), followed by African Americans/Blacks (5.5 per 100,000), and the "Multirace" population (5.1 per 100,000). The HP2010 objective is not being achieved for any of these racial groups as of 2004. This objective is, however, being achieved for Hispanics/Latinos (4.7 per 100,000 in 2004). Death rates for the American Indian/Alaska Native and the Pacific Islander populations were unreliable due to the small number of events and are not reported here.

For more information on suicide in California, visit the Epidemiology for Prevention and Injury Control (EPIC) Web site at:

http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/epicdata/content/ST_suicide.htm

And the Suicide Prevention Advocacy Network (SPAN) site at:

<http://www.spancalifornia.org/>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 18-1, please visit:

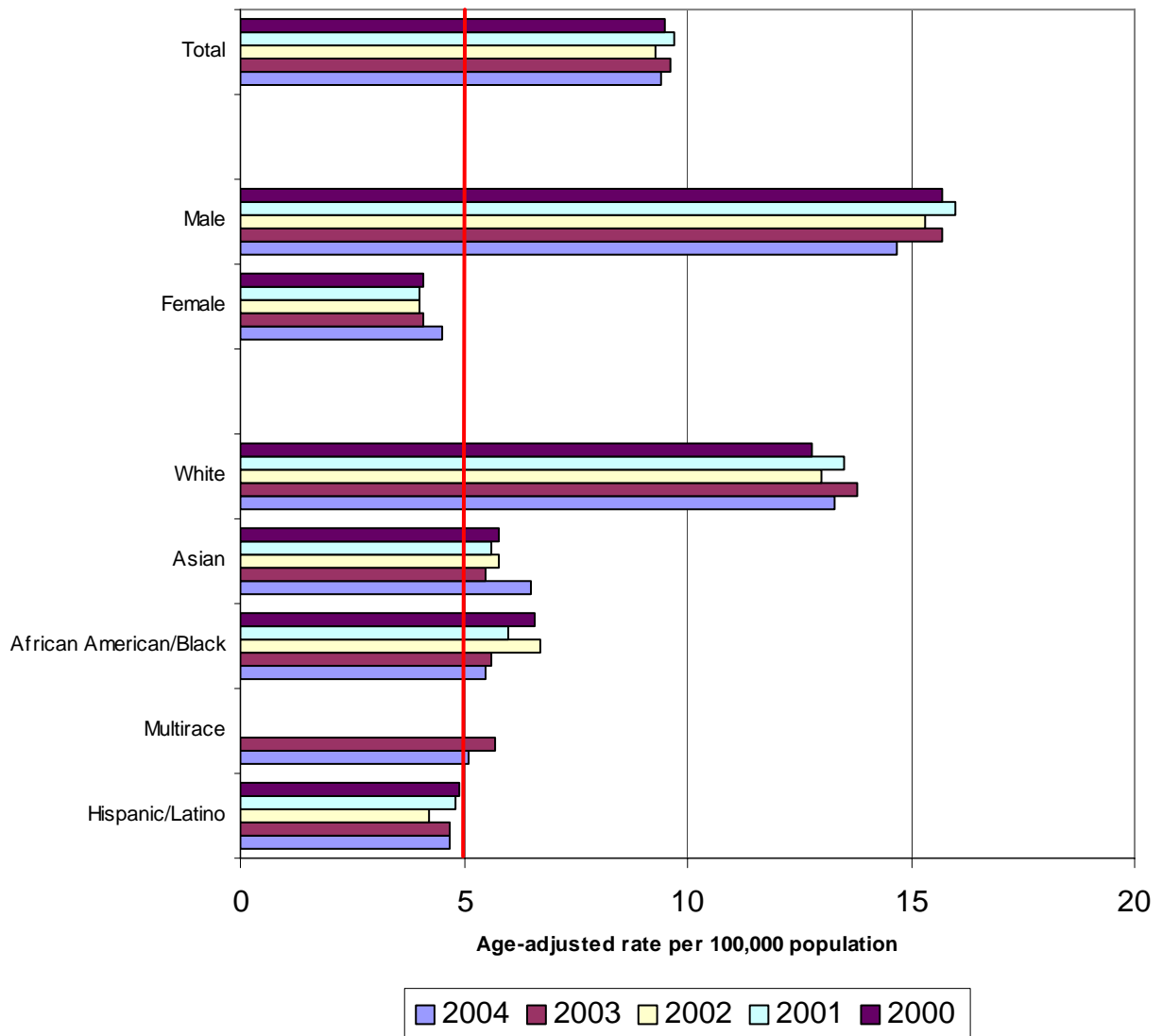
<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/18Mental.htm>

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od18.htm>

Figure 18-1
Suicide Death Rates
California, 2000-2004

Healthy People 2010 Objective = 5.0



**Table 18-1: Suicide Deaths and Death Rates
California, 2000-2004**

Objective 18-1	2000		Lower	Upper	2001		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate ¹	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate ¹	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target		5.0				5.0		
Statewide Total	3,112	9.5	9.2	9.9	3,254	9.7	9.4	10.0
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	144	6.6	5.5	7.7	134	6.0	5.0	7.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	12	DSU	-----	-----	12	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	210	5.8	5.0	6.6	216	5.6	4.8	6.3
Hispanic/Latino	449	4.9	4.3	5.4	489	4.8	4.3	5.3
Pacific Islander	9	DSU	-----	-----	8	DSU	-----	-----
White	2,270	12.8	12.3	13.4	2,385	13.5	13.0	14.0
Multirace	14	DSU	-----	-----	8	DSU	-----	-----
Gender								
Female	682	4.1	3.8	4.4	685	4.0	3.7	4.3
Male	2,430	15.7	15.1	16.4	2,569	16.0	15.4	16.7

Objective 18-1	2002		Lower	Upper	2003		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate ¹	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate ¹	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target		5.0				5.0		
Statewide Total	3,209	9.3	9.0	9.6	3,395	9.6	9.3	10.0
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	152	6.7	5.6	7.8	131	5.6	4.6	6.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	17	DSU	-----	-----	16	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	231	5.8	5.0	6.5	220	5.5	4.7	6.2
Hispanic/Latino	442	4.2	3.8	4.6	509	4.7	4.3	5.2
Pacific Islander	9	DSU	-----	-----	18	DSU	-----	-----
White	2,334	13.0	12.5	13.6	2,464	13.8	13.3	14.4
Multirace	19	DSU	-----	-----	34	5.7	3.7	7.7
Gender								
Female	710	4.0	3.7	4.3	733	4.1	3.8	4.4
Male	2,499	15.3	14.7	15.9	2,662	15.7	15.1	16.3

Objective 18-1	2004		Lower	Upper	5-year	HP2010 Objective
	N	Rate ¹	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	Trend	Being Achieved?
Healthy People 2010 Target		5.0				
Statewide Total	3,362	9.4	9.1	9.7	ns	No
Race-Ethnicity						
African American/Black	132	5.5	4.5	6.4	ns	No
American Indian/Alaska Native	17	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Asian	274	6.5	5.8	7.3	ns	No
Hispanic/Latino	542	4.7	4.2	5.1	ns	Yes
Pacific Islander	8	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
White	2,354	13.3	12.7	13.8	ns	No
Multirace	33	5.1	3.3	6.9	ns	No
Gender						
Female	821	4.5	4.2	4.8	ns	Yes
Male	2541	14.7	14.1	15.3	ns	No

SOURCES: CA Department of Health Services, Death Records, 2000-2004; CA Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, May 2004.

NOTES: Suicide deaths defined by ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0.

¹ Rate per 100,000 population, age-adjusted using the 2000 US population standard.

ns No significant trend as measured by linear regression analysis; n/a Not applicable (fewer than five data points)

DSU Data statistically unreliable (Relative Standard Error greater than 23 percent).